(d) to (f) The information is being collected from various port licensing offices and will be laid on the Table of the House.

पूर्ति और निपटान महानिदेशालय द्वारा माल की खरीद

488. **श्री विश्वासराव रामराव पाटिल**: क्या **वाणिज्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पूर्ति और निपटान महानिदेशालय, विभिन्न सरकारी विभागों को आगे पूर्ति करने हेतु किन-किन संगठनों से माल खरीदता है ; और

(ख) इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री सलमान खुर्शीद): (क) और (ख) पूर्ति तथा निपटान महानिदेशालय द्वारा किया जाने वाला अधिप्राप्ति का कार्य किसी एक विशिष्ट अथवा विनिर्दिष्ट संगठन तक सीमित नहीं होता। पूर्ति तथा निपटान महानिदेशालय अखिल भारतीय आधार पर प्रतियोगी बोलियों के माध्यम से बडी संख्या में मदों की अधिप्राप्ति करता है । 1990–91 के दौरान पूर्ति तथा निपटान महानिदेशालय ने अधिप्राप्ति के लिए 7372 ठेके तय किये ।

Inquiring about the rate contract of G.I. Pipes by State Governments

489. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 681 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 5th May, 1992 and state:

(a) whether several State Governments have enquired about the status of the Rate contract of G.I. Pipes;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) by when, the final decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Governments of Bihar, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have enquired about the rate contract.

(c) Rate Contracts for G.I. Pipes have since been concluded.

Contribution of non-traditional items to export

490. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the contribution of non-traditional items in total exports of the country;

(b) what are the details of the export promotion policy/strategies adopted to enhance the export of non-traditional items; and

(c) what has been the impact of these strategies on the export of non-traditional items?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) According to provisional estimates, the non-traditional items contributed about 70% of our total exports during the financial year 1991-92.

(b) Several changes in trade policy were introduced since July 1991 aimed at strengthening export incentives, eliminating a substantial volume of import licensing and rationalising the import tariff structure. In the Budget for 1992-93, rupee was made partially convertible to encourage generation of foreign exchange and export of value added items. These have been further consolidated in the new Export-Import Policy announced on 31st March, 1992 and revised on July 1, 1992 which *inter-alia*, aims to promote the productivity, modernisation and competitiveness of Indian industry and thereby to enhance its export capabilities. The Government has also announced a 5-point

Action Plan for boosting exports during 1992-93. These include formation of a national plan for export promotion of 34 commodities identified as "Extreme focus sectors", launching of a National Quality Awareness Programme, one to one meeting with export houses and leading industrial houses, launching of a world wide effort to revamp our external commercial representations, improve external publicity and undertake export promotion for our products in 40-50 select countries, reorganisation of the Office of Chief Controller of Imports and Exports from the present form of a regulatory authority to a pomotional body, etc. Besides, the Government has taken other steps which include reducing controls through licensing, simplification of procedures for export, activisation of Board of Trade, bilateral discussions with select countries, interaction with national organisations of Trade and Industry.

(c) According to provisional estimates, the export of non-traditional items increased from Rs. 23023 crores during 1990-91 to Rs. 30708 crores during 1991-92, thereby registering a growth of 33.4%.

Meeting of chairman of Tobacco Board with traders

491. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Chairman of Tobacco Board had a series of meetings with traders during the last one year;

(b) if so, how many meetings actually took place; and

(c) what points were discussed thereat?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c) Every year the Chairman, Tobacco Board convenes several meetings with traders and the office bearers of Indian Tobacco Association to discuss day-to-day issues relating to tobacco auctions and exports. As these are informal meetings convened at short notice, record of discussions or minutes are not maintained. The subjects discussed at these meetings broadly include the following:

1. Prices at auction platforms
2. Crop size of tobacco
3. Problems of traders (General)
4. Problems relating to Bank finance
5. Problems relating to shipments
6. Tobacco stock requirements
7. Export trends
8. New markets
9. International trends etc.
10. Minimum guarantee price (MGP)

The suggestions offered by the trade in these meetings are kept in view while preparing the Board's policies/action plan etc.

Export potential in M.P.

492. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have done any survey in Madhya Pradesh to find out its Export potential in the recent past;

(b) if so, what is the finding thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken a decision to give special incentives to the exporters of Madhya Pradesh; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Trade Development Authority (now India Trade Promotion Organisation) prepared an Approach Paper on Action Plan for promotion of exports from Madhya Pradesh in 1990. The following products